

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re

Case No. 06-10064 (SMB)

MUSICLAND HOLDINGS CORP., *et al.*,¹

Chapter 11

Debtors.

Jointly Administered

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THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED
CREDITORS OF MUSICLAND HOLDINGS
CORP., *et al.*,

Plaintiff,

Adv. Proc. No. 06-

(SMB)

- against -

PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION and
PARAMOUNT HOME ENTERTAINMENT, INC.
d/b/a PARAMOUNT HOME VIDEO d/b/a
PARAMOUNT PICTURES, HOME VIDEO
DIVISION,

Defendants.

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**COMPLAINT TO AVOID AND RECOVER PREFERENTIAL
AND/OR FRAUDULENT TRANSFERS, RECOVER DAMAGES
FOR DEFENDANTS' BREACH OF CONTRACT, AND DIRECT
THE TURNOVER OF PROPERTY TO THE DEBTORS' ESTATES**

Plaintiff, the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors ("Plaintiff" or the "Committee")
of the above-captioned debtors and debtors in possession (collectively, the "Debtors"), by and
through their counsel Hahn & Hessen LLP, hereby files this Complaint to (i) avoid and recover
preferential and/or fraudulent transfers; (ii) recover damages for Defendants' breach of contract;

¹ The Debtors are: Musicland Holding Corp., Media Play, Inc., MG Financial Services, Inc., MLG Internet, Inc., Musicland Purchasing Corp., Musicland Retail, Inc., Request Media, Inc., Sam Goody Holding Corp., Suncoast Group, Inc., Suncoast Holding Corp., Suncoast Motion Picture Company, Inc., Suncoast Retail, Inc., TMG Caribbean, Inc., TMG-Virgin Islands, Inc., and The Musicland Group, Inc.

(iii) direct the turnover of Debtors' property in the Defendants' possession; and (iv) for other relief, in support thereof, states:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an adversary proceeding brought in the above-captioned bankruptcy cases pursuant to Part VII of the Bankruptcy Rules seeking to (a) avoid certain preferential and/or fraudulent transfers made by the Debtors to the above-captioned defendants Paramount Pictures Corporation and Paramount Home Entertainment, Inc. d/b/a Paramount Home Video d/b/a Paramount Pictures, Home Video Division (collectively, the "Defendants") and to recover the value thereof, pursuant to 11 U.S.C. (the "Bankruptcy Code") §§ 547, 548, 550 and 551; (b) recover damages from Defendants' breach of contract; and (c) direct the turnover of property of the Debtors' estates pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 542.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. This Court has jurisdiction over this adversary proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334(b).

3. This adversary proceeding has been referred to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(a).

4. This adversary proceeding is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2)(F).

5. Venue of this adversary proceeding is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1409(a).

PARTIES

6. On January 12, 2006 (the “Petition Date”), the Debtors commenced with this Court, voluntary cases (the “Cases”) under Chapter 11 of Title 11 of the United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”).

7. On January 20, 2006, the United States Trustee for the Southern District of New York appointed seven of the Debtors’ largest unsecured creditors to the Committee.

8. Since the Petition Date, the Debtors have been managing their affairs and conducting their businesses as debtors-in-possession, pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code.

9. On February 21, 2006, this Court entered an order (the “DIP Order”) approving the Debtors’ motion for post-petition financing (the “DIP Motion”) which, *inter alia*, provided, pursuant to section 4.6.3, the Committee with sixty days from the date of appointment of counsel to the Committee to file certain claims against the “Secured Trade Creditors” (the “DIP STC Claims”).²

10. Pursuant to several so-ordered stipulations, the Committee’s time to file the DIP STC Claims was extended up to and including November 3, 2006.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendants are (a) corporations or other legal entities incorporated and/or formed under Delaware law and (b) have been identified as Secured Trade Creditors under section 4.6.3 of the DIP Order or by their counsel.

12. Prior to the Petition Date, the Debtors ordered and received goods from the Defendants. As part of the Debtors’ business relationship with the Defendants, as well as other entities that supplied goods to the Debtors, the Debtors were entitled to take certain

² Contemporaneously with the filing of this complaint, the Debtors, the Informal Committee and the Committee will be filing and seeking court approval of a stipulation granting the Committee authorization and standing to bring any and all additional actions that the Debtors may have against the Defendants.

deductions/chargebacks that arose from price protection programs, advertising programs and other incentives. Customarily, the deductions/chargebacks would be issued at the time the price protection or advertising program went into effect and the Debtors would receive equivalent value from the Defendants at a later date. The Defendants offered similar programs to the Debtors post-petition.

THE TRANSFERS

13. On or within 90 days prior to the Petition Date (the “Preference Period”), Musicland Purchasing Corp. (“MPC”), one of the Debtors, made one or more monetary transfer to or for the benefit of the Defendants, as set forth on Exhibit “A” annexed hereto (the “Known Monetary Transfers”). The list of transfers on Exhibit “A” does not include payments which were made one (1) day after the invoice date, on the invoice date or prior to the invoice date, as the Committee believed that such transfers were be considered either prepayments or contemporaneous exchanges, and thus not recoverable as preferences (the “Prepayments”).

14. Exhibit “A” reflects the Committee’s present knowledge of the monetary transfers made to the Defendants by MPC. During the course of this proceeding the Committee may learn (through discovery or otherwise) of additional monetary transfers made by MPC or any of the other Debtors to the Defendants during the Preference Period or that a Prepayment was in fact an avoidable transfer. The Committee is seeking to avoid and recover all such monetary transfers, whether such monetary transfers presently are reflected on Exhibit “A” or not. Collectively, all avoidable monetary transfers made by the Debtors to or for the benefit of the Defendants during the Preference Period (whether such monetary transfers presently are reflected on Exhibit “A” or not) are referred to herein as the “Monetary Transfers”.

15. During the Preference Period, the Debtors returned various goods to or for the benefit of the Defendants. Those returns and their values are reflected in various chargebacks which are set forth on Exhibit “B” annexed hereto (the “Known Returned Goods Transfers”).

16. Exhibit “B” reflects the Committee’s present knowledge of the returned goods made by the Debtors to the Defendants. During the course of this proceeding the Committee may learn (through discovery or otherwise) of additional returned goods made by the Debtors to the Defendants during the Preference Period. The Committee is seeking to avoid and recover the value of all such transfers, whether such transfers presently are reflected on Exhibit “B” or not. Collectively, all avoidable transfers made by the Debtors of returned goods to or for the benefit of the Defendants during the Preference Period (whether such transfers presently are reflected on Exhibit “B” or not) are referred to herein as the “Returned Goods Transfers”, collectively with the Monetary Transfers, the “Transfers”).

**PRICE PROTECTION AND ADVERTISING
PROGRAMS DEBTS OWING TO THE DEBTORS**

Price Protection Programs

17. Post-petition, the Debtors were in possession of various goods that the Debtors ordered and received from the Defendants.

18. Post-petition, the Defendants offered various price-protection programs (the “Price Protection Programs”) which enabled and reimbursed vendors, such as the Debtors, to sell certain slow-moving goods (the “Stale Goods”) at lower prices. The Price Protection Programs were implemented by the Defendants providing the Debtors with a list of certain goods that could be sold at reduced prices after a set date. Under the Price Protection Programs, the Debtors were entitled to issue chargebacks in the amount of the quantity of the Debtors’ inventory of the Stale Goods multiplied by the corresponding permitted price reduction. In order

to receive credit, the Debtors were required to submit, to the Defendants, their on-hand, on-order and in-transit inventory data for a set date. That inventory data would accompany the corresponding chargeback.

19. Pursuant to the Price Protection Programs implemented by the parties subsequent to the Petition Date, the Debtors issued chargebacks to the Defendants in the amount of \$80,488.14 reflecting the reduction of prices for Stale Goods that were in the Debtors' possession post-petition (the "Price Protection Chargebacks").

20. Attached as Exhibit "C" is a summary of the Price Protection Chargebacks.

21. In addition, the Defendants issued credit-memos to the Debtors on account of sums owed pursuant to post-petition Price Protection Programs in the amount of \$5,160.00 (the "Price Protection Credit-Memos").

22. Attached as Exhibit "D" is a summary of the Price Protection Credit-Memos that were issued subsequent to the Petition Date by the Defendants to the Debtors.

23. Since the Price Protection Chargebacks and Price Protection Credit-Memos arose subsequent to the Petition Date, the Debtors have demanded that the Defendants remit and turnover to the respective estates the amount of the Price Protection Chargebacks and the Price Protection Credit-Memos which the Debtors are entitled. The Defendants have failed and refused to do so.

Advertising Programs

24. Post-petition, the Debtors were in possession of various goods that the Debtors ordered and received from the Defendants.

25. Post-petition, the Defendants offered various advertising programs (the "Advertising Programs") which reimbursed vendors, such as the Debtors, for a portion of their

incurred advertising costs related to the sale of goods provided by the Defendants. Under the Advertising Programs, the Debtors were entitled to be reimbursed by the Defendants for a portion of the Debtors' incurred advertising costs that related to the sale of the goods provided by the Defendants.

26. Pursuant to the Advertising Programs, the Defendants issued credit-memos on account of sums owed pursuant to post-petition Advertising Programs in the amount of \$218,897.00 (the "Advertising Credit-Memos").

27. Attached as Exhibit "E" is a summary of the Advertising Credit-Memos that were issued subsequent to the Petition Date by the Defendants to the Debtors.

28. Since these Advertising Programs were implemented subsequent to the Petition Date and the amounts accrued post-petition, the Debtors have demanded that the Defendants remit and turnover to the respective estates the amount of the Advertising Credit-Memos which the Debtors are entitled. The Defendants have failed and refused to do so.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION
(Preference Claim Against the Defendants)

29. The Committee repeats and realleges paragraphs "1" through "16" hereof as if fully set forth herein.

30. The Transfers were made within 90 days prior to the Petition Date.

31. The Transfers were transfers of an interest of one or more of the Debtors in property.

32. The Transfers were made to or for the benefit of the Defendants, creditors of one or more of the Debtors.

33. The Transfers were made for or on account of antecedent debts owed to the Defendants by one or more of the Debtors before such Transfers were made.

34. The Transfers were made while the Debtors were insolvent.

35. The Transfers enabled the Defendants to receive more than the Defendants would receive if: (i) the Debtors' cases were cases under chapter 7 of the Bankruptcy Code; (ii) the Transfers had not been made; and (iii) the Defendants received payment on account of the debt paid by the Transfers to the extent provided by the provisions of the Bankruptcy Code.

36. The Transfers constitute preferential transfers which should be avoided as preferences pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 547 and are recoverable from the Defendants pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 550.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
(Fraudulent Transfer Claim Against the Defendants)

37. The Committee pleads this Second Cause of Action in the alternative and restates and realleges the allegations of paragraphs "1" through "16" and "29" through "36" above as if fully set forth herein. The Committee brings this Second Cause of Action in the event that the Defendants asserts that one or more of the Transfers was made on behalf of a Debtor other than the Debtor that owed the corresponding antecedent debt.

38. The Transfers constitute transfers of an interest of the Debtors in property.

39. The Debtors received less than a reasonably equivalent value in exchange for the Transfers.

40. The Debtors (i) were insolvent on the date that the Transfers were made, or became insolvent as a result of the Transfers; (ii) was engaged in business or a transaction, or was about to engage in business or a transaction, for which any property remaining with the Debtors was an unreasonably small capital, or (iii) intended to incur, or believed that it would incur, debts that would be beyond the Debtors' ability to pay as such debts matured.

41. The Transfers constitute fraudulent transfers which should be avoided pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 548 and are recoverable from the Defendants pursuant to Bankruptcy Code § 550.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
(Disallowance of the Defendants' Proofs of Claim or Scheduled Claims)

42. The Committee repeats and realleges the allegations of paragraphs "1" through "16" and "29" through "41" above as if fully set forth herein.

43. The Defendants are entities from which property is recoverable under section 550 of the Bankruptcy Code and are transferees of transfers avoidable under sections 547 and/or 548 of the Bankruptcy Code.

44. The Defendants have not paid the amount, or turned over such property, for which the Defendants are liable under section 550 of the Bankruptcy Code.

45. To the extent that the Defendants currently possess filed or scheduled claims (or a portion thereof) against the Debtors which have not been transferred or assigned to an unrelated party who is not a member of the Secured Trade Creditors Committee (as defined in the DIP Motion) (the "Claims"), the Claims should be disallowed until the Transfers are repaid in full to the Debtors pursuant to section 502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION
(Breach of Contract Claim Against the Defendants)

46. The Committee restates and realleges the allegations of paragraphs "1" through "12" and "17" through "28" above as if fully set forth herein.

47. The Defendants are parties to the Price Protection Programs and the Advertising Programs and have breached their obligations thereunder by failing to remit payment to the Debtors' estates for the credits earned by, and owed to, the Debtors.

48. Pursuant to the Price Protection Programs, the Debtors' estates are owed \$80,488.14 on the Price Protection Chargebacks.

49. Pursuant to the Price Protection Programs, the Debtors' estates are owed \$5,160.00 on the Price Protection Credit-Memos.

50. Pursuant to the Advertising Programs, the Debtors' estates are owed \$218,897.00 on the Advertising Credit-Memos.

51. The Debtors have fully performed all of their obligations under the Price Protection and Advertising Programs.

52. By reason thereof, the Committee requests a judgment be entered against the Defendants in an amount not less than \$304,545.14 for the amounts due and outstanding to the Debtors' estates under the post-petition Price Protection and Advertising Programs.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION
(Turnover Claim Against the Defendants)

53. The Committee restates and realleges the allegations of paragraphs "1" through "12," "17" through "28" and "46" through "52" above as if fully set forth herein.

54. The Defendants owe debts to the Debtors' estates pursuant to the post-petition Price Protection and Advertising Programs.

55. The amounts owed under the post-petition Price Protection and Advertising Programs are property of the Debtors' estates.

56. All or part of the sums due and owing from the Defendants to the Debtors constitute property of the Debtors' respective estates, which Defendants are required to turnover to the Debtors pursuant to Section 542(b) of the Bankruptcy Code.

57. Defendants are not entitled to offset the post-petition amounts due to the Debtors' estates under the Price Protection Programs and the Advertising Programs against any pre-

petition debt owed by the Debtors to the Defendants under Section 553 of the Bankruptcy Code because, among other reasons, (a) the Defendants do not hold any pre-petition debt owed by the Debtors to the Defendants and (b) the amounts due and owing under the Price Protection Programs and the Advertising Programs constitute post-petition obligations of the Defendants to the Debtors' estates.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION
(Equitable Relief Against the Defendants)

58. The Committee restates and realleges the allegations of paragraphs "1" through "12," "17" through "28" and "46" through "57" above as if fully set forth herein.

59. The Defendants unjustifiably failed to pay amounts owing to the Debtors' estates pursuant to the post-petition Price Protection and Advertising Programs.

60. The Defendants have done so to the detriment of the Debtors' estates and the Debtors' creditors.

61. By reason thereof, the Committee requests that the Defendants be required to remit all amounts due and owing to the Debtors' estates under the post-petition Price Protection and Advertising Programs.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, the Committee respectfully requests the following relief:

- A. That the Transfers be avoided;
- B. That judgment be entered in favor of the Committee and against the Defendants, in an amount at least \$6,163,153.44 (plus such additional transfer amounts that the Committee learns, through discovery or otherwise, were made by the Debtors to the Defendants during the Preference Period), plus interest at the legal rate from the date of the Transfers, together with all costs of this action;

C. That the Claims be disallowed until the Transfers are repaid to the Debtors pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 502(d);

D. That judgment be entered in favor of the Committee and against the Defendants in amount of no less than \$304,545.14; and

E. That the Committee be granted such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York
November 3, 2006

HAHN & HESSEN LLP

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